

Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9059

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY UNN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY UNN

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: ELAB, XT

SUBJ: ETUC CONGRESS-- NEW OFFICERS

REF: COPENHAGEN (A) 1457 (B) COPENHAGEN 1435

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1. NEW PRESIDENT OF ETUC IS HEINZ OSKAR VETTER OF DGB. PEER CARLSEN, 45 YEAR OLD INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS SECRETARY OF DANISH LO, WAS ELECTED DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY, TO FILL POSITION VACATED BY KAARE SANDEGREN. THEO RASSCHAERT WILL CONTINUE AS GENERAL SECRETARY, ON ASSUMPTION THAT HIS ELECTION AT LAST YEAR'S REGULAR CONGRESS WAS FOR FULL THREE YEAR INTER-CONGRESS PERIOD.

2. FOLLOWING SIX VICE-PRESIDENTS WERE APPOINTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: THOMAS NIELSEN (LO- DENMARK); A. STROER ("OGB- AUSTRIA); BRUNO STORTI (CISL - ITALY); GEORGES DEBUNNE (FGTB- BELGIUM), LEN MURRAY (TUC); AND W.J. L. SPIT (NKV -NETHERLANDS). THUS NEWLY-AFFILIATED CHRISTIAN TRADE UNION CENTERS (FROM EO-WCL)WERE GIVEN REPRESENTATION (SPIT) PROPORTIONATE TO THEIR RELATIVE NUMBER WITHIN THE ETUC (THREE OF THIRTY THREE MILLION).

3. THE NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, BASED ON AMENDED ARTICLE 12 (SEE REFTEL B, PARA 3), CONSISTS OF:

BELGIUM- G. DEBUNNE (FGTB)

J. HOUTHUYS (CSC)

DENMARK- T. NIELSEN (LO)

J. CHRISTENSEN (FTF)

WEST GERMANY- H.O. VETTER (DGB)

E. LODERER (DGB)

A. LAPPAS (DGB)

SPAIN - A.G. DUARTE (UGT)

J.M. LEUNDA (STV)

FRANCE - A. BERGERON (CGT-FO)

E. MAIRE (CFDT)

GREAT BRITAIN - L. MURRAY (TUC)

J. JONES (TUC)

R.W. BRIGINSHAW (TUC)

IRELAND - D. LARKIN (ICTU)

ICELAND - B. JONSSON (ALTHYDUSAMBAND)

ITALY - B. STORTI (CISL)

R. VANNI (UIL)

LUXEMBOURG - M. HINTERSCHIED (CGT)

J. SPAUTZ (LCGB)

MALTA -(GWU)

NETHERLANDS - W.KOK (NVV)

W. J.L. SPIT (NKV) ALTERNATE: A. HORDYK (CNV)

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NORWAY - T. ASPENGREN (LO)

AUSTRIA - A. STROER (UGB)

SWITZERLAND - E. CANONICA (SGB)

B. GRUBER (CNG) ALTERNATE: M. GRAF (SVEA)

FINLAND - A. VALIKANGAS (TVK)

N. HAMALAINEN (SAK)

SWEDEN - G. NILSSON (LO)

L. BODSTROM (TCO)

(ALL MEMBERS HAVE ALTERNATE MEMBERS FROM THEIR OWN ORGANIZATIONS, EXCEPT FOR THE TWO ALTERNATES LISTED.)

4. COMMENT: THE ELECTION OF VETTER APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN THE RESULT OF A STAND-OFF BETWEEN THE OTHER TWO SEMI-DECLARD CANDIDATES, NIELSEN AND DEBUNNE, AND OF THE REFUSAL BY THE NORDICS, ESPECIALLY THE SWEDES, TO GIVE THEIR PROMISED SUPPORT TO NIELSEN. WHEN THIS BECAME CLEAR ON FIRST DAY OF CONGRESS, MAY 23, DGB DELEGATION CAUCUSED MAY 24 AND GAVE VETTER GREEN LIGHT TO BE CANDIDATE. THEREUPON THE AGREEMENT FROM FOUNDING CONGRESS OF 1973 -- THAT VETTER SHOULD SUCCEED FEATHER -- WAS REVIVED, ASSURING VETTER SUPPORT OF TUC AND SWEDISH LO, AND CONSEQUENTLY ELECTION. NEEDLESS TO SAY, RELATIONS AMONG THE NORDIC LOS ARE AT ALL-TIME LOW. NORDIC CHAIRMEN MET LAST NIGHT TO ATTEMPT TO STRAIGHTEN OUT SITUATION BUT WITH LITTLE APPARENT SUCCESS.

5. IN DEPUTY GENSEC ELECTION HERE WERE THREE CANDIDATES, BUT CARLSEN OBTAINED MORE VOTES THAN DID OTHER TWO CANDIDATES COMBINED, ETUC SECRETARY A. MISSLIN FROM (CGT-FO) AND JEAN KULAKOWSKI, FORMER SEC GEN OF EO-WCL.

6. GENERAL FEELING IN COPENHAGEN IS THAT NEW TEAM OF OFFICERS IS NOT APT TO PROVE PARTICULARLY DYNAMIC. VETTER HAS HANDS FULL WITH DGB AFFAIRS AND, WITHOUT BACKING OF STRONG PRESIDENT, CARLSEN WILL BE UNABLE TO PUT RASCHAERT IN MOTION. ON OTHER HAND, ELECTION OF VETTER PROMISES TO ALLEVIATE TENSIONS BETWEEN ETUC AND ICFTU. THIS WAS ILLUSTRATED AT PRESS CONFERENCE TERMINATING CONGRESS WHEN JOURNALIST INQUIRED ABOUT ETUC'S FUTURE RELATIONSHIP TO THE WFTU. VETTER REPLIED: "THAT IS A QUESTION FOR THE ICFTU"
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